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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#9/Jan  
07-19-02

Applicant(s): Shi-You Ding et al. )  
Serial No.: 09/917,378 ) Group Art Unit: 1645  
Filed: July 28, 2001 ) Examiner: Not Yet Accorded  
Title: Thermal Tolerant Mennanase ) Atty Dkt No. : NREL 01-35  
from *Acidothermus cellulolyticus* )

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 CFR §§ 1.56 AND 1.97

Honorable Assistant  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the citations listed below be considered by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and be made of official record in the above-identified application.

In the opinion of the undersigned, the below-listed citations represent the closest art known to the undersigned during the preparation of the above-identified application. These citations may be material to the examination of the subject application and are therefore submitted in compliance with a duty of disclosure defined in 37 CFR §§ 1.56 and 1.97.

CITED PATENTS

U.S. Patent 6,060,299

Sreckrishna et al.

May 9, 2000

### CITED PUBLICATIONS

Sunna et al., "A Gene Encoding a Novel Multidomain  $\beta$ -1, 4-Mannanase from *Caldibacillus cellulovorans* and Action of the Recombinant Enzyme on Kraft Pulp," Applied and Environmental Microbiology, Vol. 66, No. 2, Feb. 2000, pp. 664-670, XP002192691.

Seikagaku Kogyo Co Ltd., "New endo- $\beta$ -mannosidases isolated from Liliaceae plants-useful for analysis of sugar chain structure," Derwent Publications Ltd., Section Ch, Week 200022, London, GB, Class B04, AN 2000-249670, XP002192693.

Tucker, M. et al., "Ultra-Thermostable Cellulases from Acidothermus: Comparison of Temperature Optima with Previously Reported Cellulases," Bio/Technology, Vol. 7, August 1989, pp. 817-820.

Thomas, S.R. et al., "Gene Coding for the E1 Endoglucanase," PCT International Application No. PCT/US95/08868, 1 February 1996, WO 96/2551A1.

Bylina, E.J. et al., "Glycosidase Enzymes," PCT International Application No. PCT/US97/00092, 17 July 1997, WO 97/25417

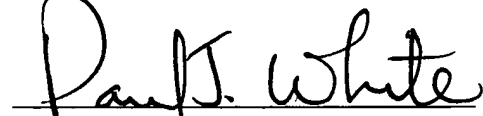
PCT International Search Report, PCT/US01/23819, 28 July 2001.

In regard to the referenced application which is submitted herewith, Applicant submits the enclosed form PTO-1449 with references that may be relevant to the patentability of the above -identified application.

This disclosure statement under 37 CFR §§ 1.56 and 1.97 is not to be construed to the effect that no other material information as defined by 37 CFR § 1.56(c) exist, or that these citations constitute prior art under 37 CFR § 1.56(c) exists, or that the citations constitute prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 102 and 103.

Dated: May 17 2002.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paul J. White". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Paul J. White, Reg. No. 30,436  
Attorney for Applicants

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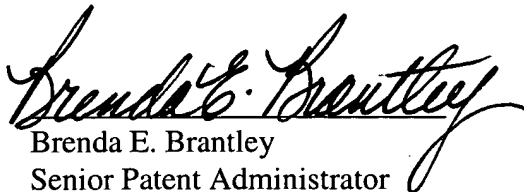
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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR § 1.8**

I hereby certify that the following attached items:

- (1) Information Disclosure Statement Under 37 CFR §§ 1.56 and 1.97 [3 pages]
- (2) Cited references
- (3) PTO Form 1449 [2 pages]
- (4) Postcard Receipt

are being deposited in the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage pre-paid, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington DC 20231 on this 17th day of May 2002.

  
Brenda E. Brantley  
Senior Patent Administrator

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